The Central Government provided assistance to the State Governments in the arenas of security and development, both. This includes assistance under various schemes for economic upliftment of tribals, for educational and vocational facilities for tribals, for creating critical infrastructural projects in tribal areas for tribal development and for raising the level of administration of scheduled areas.

Promotion of plea-bargaining

925. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the system of plea-bargaining is providing successful in Tihar Jail in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Government would advise the State Governments to launch similar schemes to meet the dual purpose of reducing over-crowding in jails and simultaneously significantly helping in liquidation of huge arrears of languishing court cases; and

(c) whether a consensus amongst judiciary, excutive or even legislature could be worked out to put this or similar systems on firmer grounds for wider acceptance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The concept of plea bargaining has been introduced through the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2005 (Act 2 of 2006) primarily to reduce pendency of cases in trial Courts and overcrowding in Prisons. An advisory has been issued to all the State Governments for implementation of Prison Reforms including the concept of plea-bargaining to improve the prison management and decongesting the jails.

Attacks by Maoists/Naxalites on Police in Chhattisgarh

926. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were deadly attacks by Maoists/Naxalites on Police on Oct. 29, followed by Nov. 2, in Chhattisgarh, involving considerable loss of lives, indicative of our intelligence failure or indifferent attitude of law enforcing agencies;

(b) if so, the locations of the outposts where logistical support is difficult to reach, and other major contributory factors for such happenings; and

(c) whether there is a co-ordinated joint para-military force facing these Maoists or only State police forces with traditional weapons are deployed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) On 29.10.2007 and 02.11.2007, there were incidents of naxalite violence in Chhattisgarh, which resulted in casualties in security personnel.

Law and order being a State subject, dealing with the various issues related to naxalite activities in a State primarily lies in the domain of the concerned State Government.

The Central Government supplements the efforts and resources of the State Governments by various means, which include deployment of Central paramilitary forces to assist the State police forces, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions, assistance for strengthening of the State police and intelligence agencies, reimbursement of security-related expenditure, assistance in training of State police forces, sharing of intelligence, bringing about inter-State coordination and assistance in development works.

12 battalions of Central paramilitary forces and 1 battalion of State Armed Police on inter-State deputation are currently deployed on anti-naxalite duties in Chhattisgarh. 4 India Reserve battalions have been sanctioned to Chhattisgarh.

Human trafficking

†927. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that human trafficking in India is causing concern;

(b) if so, the efforts being made to check this inhuman practice; and

(c) the details of number of cases reported during the last three years and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the human trafficking in India is a cause of concern to the Government of India. The Union Government is taking several measures, in concert with the State Governments for prevention and control of the crime of trafficking as well as measures for rehabilitation of victims. The Union Government has advised all the State Governments to deal with the crime of trafficking in a holistic manner and to evolve an effective and comprehensive strategy encompassing rescue, relief and rehabilitation of victims besides taking deterrent action against the law violators. The Ministry of Home Affairs has set up a Nodal Cell to coordinate matters relating to trafficking in human beings between the State Governments/Union Territory Adminstrations and other related Ministries etc. and organize co-ordination meetings to review and sensitize Police Officers of the States/Union Territories on the subject. A Central Advisory Committee (CAC) on implementation of Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act is functioning at Central level in the Ministry of Women & Child Development, which is represented by States as well as Central Organizations and NGOs etc.

The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) is orgnanizing regional anti-trafficking workshops for sensitizing police personnel towards the safety and security of women. Several workshops have been held in various cities till date. The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has also prepared a training manual on "Human Trafficking Handbook for Investigators" for use in the Police Training Institutes.

(c) As per the statistics complied by the National Crime Record Bureau, the number of cases registered, cases chargesheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, persons chargesheeted and persons convicted under Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act, 1956, during the years 2004, 2005 & 2006 (Provisional) are given in Statement.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.